This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims: Please amend the claims as follows:

We claim:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ for the isolation of RNA from a sample, ~~samples, characterised by the following method steps:~~ comprising

a) ~~provision of~~ providing a magnetite solid phase;

b) ~~provision of~~ providing a binding buffer which comprises guanidinium thiocyanate ~~in~~ at a concentration which, after mixing with the sample, produces a final concentration of > 2.5M guanidinium thiocyanate;

c) mixing ~~of~~ the sample with the magnetite solid phase and the binding buffer in the presence of phosphate, ~~where a~~ wherein said phosphate is present in the mixture at a concentration which supports the binding of RNA to said solid phase ~~is present in this mixture~~;

d) ~~isolation of~~ isolating the solid phase with the bound RNA.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that, after step d), the solid phase is~~ further comprising optionally washing the solid phase ~~washed~~, and subsequently eluting the RNA ~~is subsequently eluted~~ from the solid phase.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to Claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the elution is carried out using an elution ~~buffers~~ buffer which ~~facilitate~~ facilitates a pH range > 7 and ~~comprise~~ which comprises phosphate.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the binding buffer additionally comprises a chealator ~~chelators, such as EDTA~~.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the solid phase consists of magnetite particles having a diameter of 0.01 to 2 μm and a specific surface area of 1 – 100 m^2/g.

Claim 6. (Cancelled)

Claim 7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the chealator is EDTA.

Claim 10. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the RNA molecules are selectively isolated compared to DNA molecules.

Claim 11. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises guanidium thiocyanate (GTC) at a concentration of greater than 3 mol/l.

Claim 12. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the binding buffer comprises at least between 4 and 8 mol/l of guanidium thiocyanate (GTC) and between 5 and 200 mmol/l of EDTA.

Claim 13. (New) A method according to Claim 1, comprising additionally employing at least one of an elution buffer, a wash buffer or a phosphate salt solution.

Claim 14. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said phosphate comprises inorganic phosphate or organic phosphate.

Claim 15. (New) A method according to Claim 14, wherein said phosphate comprises sodium hydrogenphosphate or creatine phosphate.

Claim 16. (New) A method according to Claim 14, wherein said phosphate is present at a concentration from between 2 to 50 mM inclusive.

Claim 17. (New) A method for the selective isolation of RNA from a sample, wherein said sample comprises RNA and DNA molecules, comprising

a) providing a magnetite solid phase;

b) providing a binding buffer which comprises guanidinium thiocyanate at a concentration which, after mixing with the sample, produces a final concentration of > 2.5M

guanidinium thiocyanate;

c) mixing the sample with the magnetite solid phase and the binding buffer in the presence of phosphate, wherein said phosphate is present in the mixture at a concentration which supports the binding of RNA to said solid phase;

d) isolating the solid phase with the selectively bound RNA with respect to DNA.

Claim 18. (New) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the RNA molecules are selectively isolated compared to DNA molecules.